Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic and disabling disease of the central nervous system in which the progression, severity, and specific symptoms cannot be foreseen; and,

Whereas, Every hour of every day someone new is diagnosed with MS, a disease that can erode a person's abilities and hopes, halt a career, and unravel the fabric of families; and,

Whereas, Last year in South Dakotan more than $400,000 was raised to find a cure for MS and to develop effective treatments for the disease, as well as to provide a wide range of client programs to improve the lives of more than 1,500 individuals living with MS in our state; and,

Whereas, This investment is paying off in significant advances in treating MS, such as new medications that may reduce or delay future disability for people with MS; and,

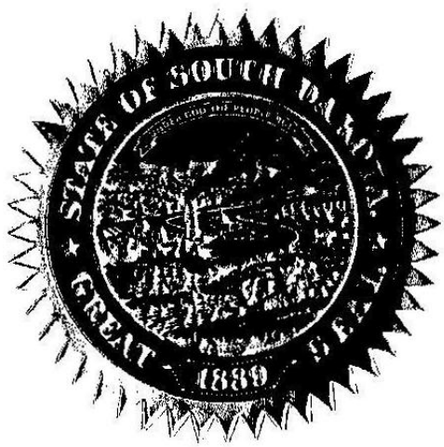
Whereas, Research advances have brought us closer to finding the cure, and services must continue to be provided to those who live with the disease; and,

Whereas, There are public and private agencies available to serve the constantly changing needs of those with MS and their families living in South Dakota by extending essential services to all who need them:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 2-8, 2009, as

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota, and commend this observance to all our citizens.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State